



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
March 11, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM has concerns with Raised Bill 1139 "*An Act Concerning Strategic Planning in State Education and Assaults on Teachers*".

This bill would impose stiff penalties on school principals who fail to act as set forth in this bill on any student-related assault of a teacher – and – appears to provide a special carve out in statute allowing teachers who were assaulted by a student to bring a civil action or file a worker's compensation claim.

CCM concerns are as follows:

- It is not clear who would be liable for paying the fine levied against a school principal who violates this bill;
- Individuals already have the right to bring civil action against anyone they are aggrieved of, making this language duplicative and unnecessary.
- Teachers already have the right to file a worker's compensation claim if they have been injured while at work, again making this language duplicative and unnecessary.

CCM urges the committee to **take no action** on this bill.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email kweaver@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 710-9525.